SUB C1 cont'd

of an agent that is an agonist of a receptor to which VEGF binds, or a nucleic acid encoding said agonist.

Claim 2 (amended):

[Use] The method according to claim 1, wherein [the] said blood vessel is an artery.

Claim 3 (amended):

[Use] The method according to claim 1 [or claim 2], for the treatment or prevention of stenosis induced by a surgical procedure or associated with pulmonary artery hypertension.

Claim 4 (amended):

[Use] The method according to claim 3, wherein [the] said surgical procedure is angioplasty, coronary bypass surgery, surgical anastomosis or endarteriectomy.

Claim 5 (amended):

[Use according to any preceding claim] The method according to claim 1, for the treatment or prevention of stenosis of the blood vessel.

Claim 6 (amended):

[Use according to any preceding claim] The method according to claim 1, for the treatment or prevention of restenosis of the blood vessel.

SUB C2

Claim 7 (amended):

[Use according to any preceding claim] The method according to claim 1, wherein [the] said agent is a protein having the function of human VEGF, or a nucleic acid encoding [the] said protein.

Claim 8 (amended):

[Use] The method according to claim 7, wherein [the] said protein has the sequence of SEQ. ~~ID No.~~ 2, SEQ. ID No. 4, SEQ. ID No. 6 or SEQ. ID No. 8, or an active fragment thereof.

Claim 9 (amended):

[Use according to any of claims 6 to 8] The method according to claim 1, wherein [the] said agent is a nucleic acid in association with a viral or non-viral vector.

Claim 10 (amended):

An implant for therapeutic use, adapted to be placed at or near the site of hyperplasia to be treated or prevented, and containing an agent as defined in [any preceding claim] claim 1.

Claim 11 (amended):

[An] The implant according to claim 10, which is a silastic implant or a biodegradable implant.

Claim 12 (amended):

[An] The implant according to claim 10 [or 11], which is in the form of a collar for fitting around a blood vessel at or near the site of the hyperplasia to be treated or prevented.

Claim 13 (amended):

[An] The implant according to [claims 10 to 12, having] claim 10, comprising an outer wall substantially impermeable to the agent comprised in it.

Sub C3

Claim 14 (amended):

[Use of an agent as defined in any of claims 6 to 9, for the manufacture of a medicament for] A method of therapy [of] for a condition that can be treated or prevented by stimulation of nitric oxide (NO) and/or prostacyclin production *in vivo*, wherein said method comprises administration to a person or animal of an effective amount of an agent, wherein said agent is a nitric oxide synthase, an agonist of a receptor to which VEGF binds, or a nucleic acid encoding said synthase or said agonist.

A1 cont'd

Claim 15 (amended):

[Use] The method according to claim 14, wherein the condition is hypertension[, e.g. essential hypertension, primary pulmonary hypertension or cor pulmonale].

Claim 17, line 1: Delete "A" and insert --The--.

Claim 18, line 1: Delete "A" and insert --The--.

Claim 18, line 1: Delete "wherein the" and insert --wherein said--.

Claim 19, line 1: Delete "A" and insert --The--.

Claim 20, line 1: Delete "A device according to any of claims 17 to 19" and insert --The device according to claim 17--.

Claim 20, line 1: Delete "the" and insert --said--.

Claim 21, line 1: Delete "A device according to any of claims 17 to 20, wherein the" and insert --The device according to claim 17, wherein said--.

Claim 22, line 1: Delete "A device according to any of claims 17 to 20, wherein the" and insert --The device according to claim 17, wherein said--.

Claim 23, line 1: Delete "A device according to any of claims 16 to 22, wherein the" and insert --The device according to claim 16, wherein said--.

Claim 24, line 1: Delete "A device according to any of claims 16 to 22, wherein the" and insert --The device according to claim 16, wherein said--.

Claim 25, line 1: Delete "A device according to any of claims 16 to 24, wherein the" and insert --The device according to claim 16, wherein said--.

Claim 26, line 1: Delete "A" and insert --the--.

Claim 26, line 1: Rewrite "claims" as --claim--.

Claim 27, line 1: Delete "A device according to any of claims 16 to 26, wherein the" and insert --The device according to claim 16, wherein said--.

Claim 28, line 1: Delete "A device according to any of claims 16 to 27, wherein the" and insert --The device according to claim 16, wherein said--.

Claim 29, line 1: Delete "A device according to any of claims 16 to 28, wherein the" and insert --The device according to claim 16, wherein said--.

Claim 30, line 1: Delete "A device according to any of claims 16 to 29, wherein the" and insert --The device according to claim 16, wherein said--.

Claim 31, line 1: Delete "A device according to any of claims 16 to 29, wherein the" and insert --The device according to claim 16, wherein said--.

Claim 32, line 1: Delete "A device according to any of claims 16 to 29, wherein the" and insert --The device according to claim 16, wherein said--.

Claim 33, line 1: Delete "A" and insert --The--.

Claim 33, line 1: Delete "or claim 32".

Claim 34, line 1: Delete "A device according to any of claims 16 to 33, wherein the" and insert --The device according to claim 16, wherein said--.

Claim 35, line 1: Delete "A device according to any of claims 16 to 34, wherein the" and insert --The device according to claim 16, wherein said--.

Claim 36, line 1: Delete "any of claims 1 to 10" and insert --claim 1--.

Claim 36, line 2: Delete "any of claims 16 to 35" and insert --claim 16--.

Please add new claims 37 and 38:

37. The method according to claim 15, wherein the hypertension condition is selected from the group consisting of essential hypertension, primary pulmonary hypertension and cor pulmonale.

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38. The device according to claim 32, wherein one body portion is generally arcuate in cross-section transverse to its longitudinal extent so as to enable it to surround the exposed portion of a first blood vessel when that vessel is part-embedded in tissue, and longitudinally-extending edges of the first body portion are arranged to be sealed, in use, to the adventitial wall of the first blood vessel or to adjacent tissue.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account 19-0065.

Respectfully submitted,

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DRP/sl